

MONROE COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH SURVEY 2021

760
SURVEY
PARTICIPANTS

78%
household
incomes over
\$50,000

40%
household
incomes over
\$100,000

45%
completed a
graduate
degree

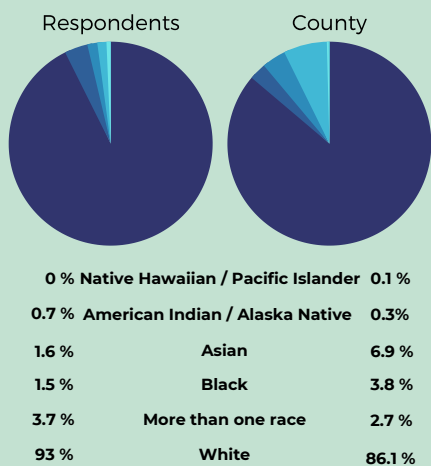
35%
completed a
bachelors

70%
worked full-time

LIMITATIONS

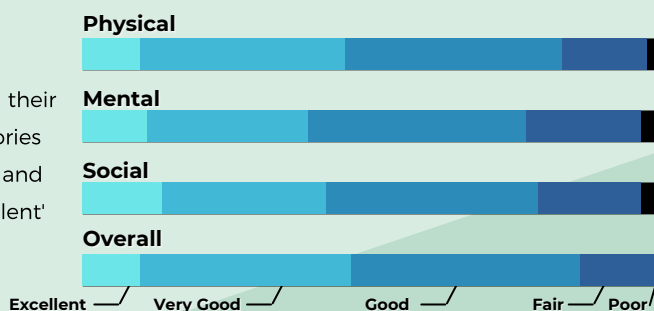
Ordinarily data is collected both via online survey and in-person interviews. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in-person interviews were not possible, leading to underrepresentation within those communities that do not have regular access to media or the internet.

RACE

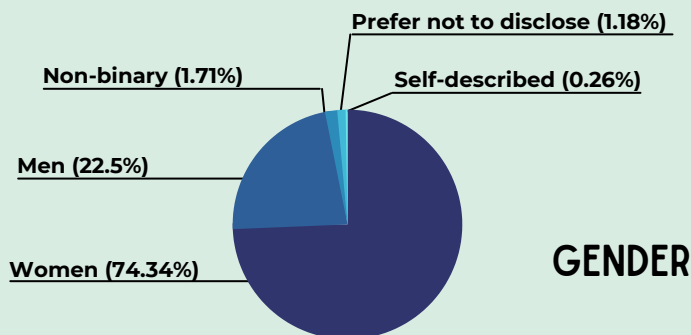


HEALTH

Respondents rated their health in 3 categories (physical, mental, and social) from 'Excellent' to 'Poor'.



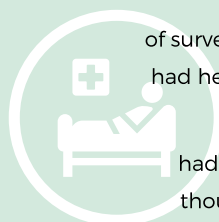
TOP 5 HEALTH ISSUES FOR THE COMMUNITY



GENDER

WORK and COVID-19 PANDEMIC

were the most common causes of stress during the time of the survey.



97%

of survey respondents
had health insurance

83%

had someone they
thought of as their
healthcare provider

53%

of respondents **worked from home** or somewhere other than their workplace since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic



MOST ACCESSED HEALTH SERVICES

- #1 - Immunizations
- #2 - Filled Prescriptions
- #3 - Visited a Dentist



LEAST ACCESSED HEALTH SERVICES

- #3 - Family Planning
- #2 - Inpatient Hospital Care
- #1 - Behavioral Care for Addiction



(fig. 54) Community Health Assessment Survey 2021

MONROE COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH SURVEY 2021

PROGRAMS OR SERVICES IMPORTANT TO YOUR *PERSONAL* HEALTH & WELL-BEING

- 1 Walking & bike trails/
outdoor recreation 
- 2 Quick access primary
care 
- 3 Physical activity
programs 
- 4 Mental health
counseling 
- 5 Aging & older adult
programs 

PROGRAMS OR SERVICES IMPORTANT TO THE HEALTH OF *OTHERS* IN MY COMMUNITY

- 1 Mental health counsel-
ing & support groups 
- 2 Substance use pre-
vention & treatment 
- 3 Services for women,
infant, child (WIC) 
- 4 Food pantries 
- 5 Assistance with finding
housing 



COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT

2021 FOCUS GROUPS

WHAT IS QUALITY OF LIFE? WHAT FACILITATES IT?

Major themes shared by community stakeholders included mental health, accessibility, self-efficacy and value, community belonging and social needs, environment and surroundings, among others.

BARRIERS TO QUALITY OF LIFE?

The discussion on barriers to quality of life emphasized topics such as mental health (with an emphasis on stress), financial security and employment, a thriving environment, substance use, as well as poverty and housing inconsistencies.

WHAT SHOULD DECISION MAKERS KNOW?

Policy, decision making, and health promotion can have a major impact on the health of a community. Priority issues for decision maker focus included: substance abuse, housing and homelessness, healthcare accessibility, student support, and mental health.

CHA/CHNA FOCUS GROUPS

were held online on the following dates:

4/13/21

4/15/21

4/19/21

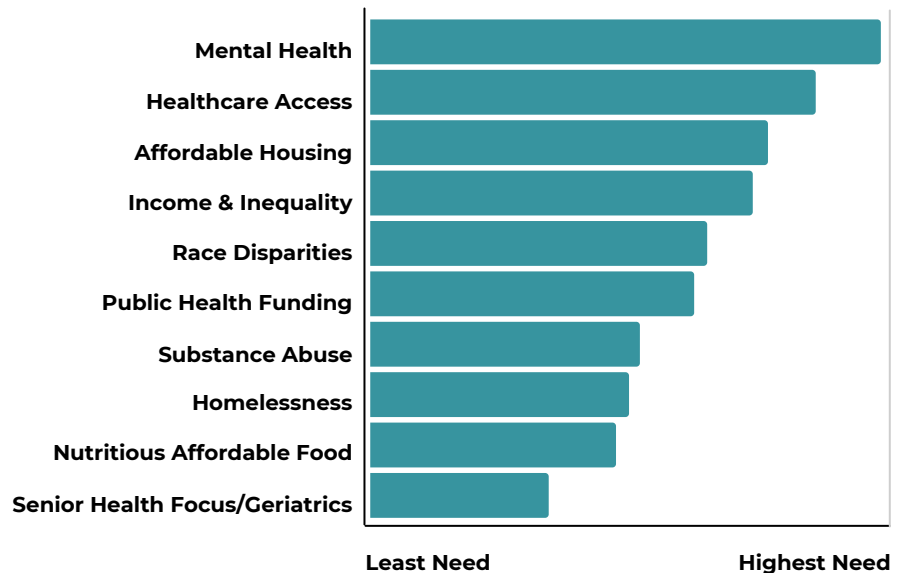
4/20/21

4/28/21

5/02/21

5/06/21

Top 10 highest needs selected by Focus Group participants








(fig. 14) Monroe County Health Department Community Health Assessment Focus Groups, 2021

COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT

2021 FOCUS GROUPS

Community Health Needs

As identified in Monroe County Focus Groups, April-May 2021

	 HEALTHCARE	 BUILT ENVIRONMENT	 PHYSICAL HEALTH	 MENTAL HEALTH	 BASIC NEEDS
BARRIERS TO HIGH QUALITY OF LIFE	Stigmas about accessing healthcare	Pollution	(Lack of) adequate sleep	Stress	(Lack of) childcare
	Difficulty navigating complicated healthcare system	Limited transportation	COVID-19	Stigma re: mental health / substance use	Language barriers
		(Affordable) housing shortage	Physical inactivity	COVID-19	Time constraints
		Technology barriers and digital divides	Obesity	Effects of trauma	Income constraints / poverty
		Lack of safe infrastructure	Chronic diseases		Unemployment
			E-cigarette use		Homelessness
SUPPORTIVE OF HIGH QUALITY OF LIFE	Dental healthcare	Transportation	Recreational opportunities	Mental health	Affordable, nutritious food
	Training for providers (about diversity, social determinants of health)	Affordable housing		Trauma care resources	Resources for minority groups
	Better insurance coverage	Connection to technological resources			Quality, affordable childcare
	Personalized medicine	Safer infrastructure (streets, sidewalks, lighting)			Social determinants of health
	Preventative care				Housing
	Specialty care providers				Education
	Care for elderly population				

COMMUNITY VOICES FOR HEALTH IN MONROE COUNTY

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS

DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEY RESULTS

49 Responses

AGE

53% 35-54 years old

RACE & ETHNICITY*

4% Asian American

8% Black / African American

4% Native American

59% White / Caucasian

2% Bi-Racial

8% Multi-Racial

33% Latinx

GENDER IDENTITY*

80% Female

16% Male

12% Transgender

8% Non-binary/ Non-conforming

In April 2020, the Bloomington Health Foundation and Community Justice and Mediation Center received funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to carry out the Community Voices for Health in Monroe County (CVHMC) initiative. A key goal of CVHMC is to listen to and elevate community voices, especially those who have been marginalized or underrepresented, in order to inform future health policies, programs, and services. Between June 2020 and June 2021, CVHMC hosted small group discussions and personal interviews with close to 180 community members. To hear from a broad range of voices, small group discussions were hosted specifically for Latinx residents, BIPOC (Black and Indigenous People of Color) residents, individuals with disabilities and their caregivers, senior citizens, Bloomington Housing Authority residents, transgender individuals, health professionals, and youth. The concerns mentioned most frequently by participants included health insurance; quality and availability of healthcare; and social and economic conditions that impact health. To learn more about the CVHMC, please visit <https://cjamcenter.org/community-voices/>.

HEALTH INSURANCE CONCERNS

- ✦ Difficult for immigrants (documented & undocumented) to obtain
- ✦ Choosing between insurance and other basic needs such as food, shelter, and clothing
- ✦ Challenging to keep Medicaid due to limits on assets
- ✦ Difficult to sort through insurance options
- ✦ Obstacles to using insurance, particularly for transgender individuals
- ✦ Hopes for more empowerment and choice

QUALITY & AVAILABILITY OF HEALTH SERVICES

- ✦ Challenges finding local providers, particularly for Medicaid patients
- ✦ High patient load and quotas for time spent with patients
- ✦ Limited range of health services for individuals without insurance
- ✦ Need to use emergency room for non-emergency health issues
- ✦ Ability of healthcare providers to serve groups with special needs, particularly individuals with disabilities, non-English speakers, immigrants, transgender individuals, and low-income residents
- ✦ Desire for more medical centers and non-emergency clinics, more active listening by healthcare providers, equitable treatment regardless of insurance coverage, and additional training for health providers to improve cultural competence

SOCIAL & ECONOMIC CONDITIONS THAT IMPACT HEALTH

- ✦ Availability and conditions of (affordable) housing
- ✦ Food insecurity, food deserts, and high cost of healthy food
- ✦ Lack of employment opportunities, particularly during COVID
- ✦ Challenging processes to access social services
- ✦ Lack of affordable and available county-wide transportation
- ✦ High costs of healthcare and uncertainty of costs prior to treatment
- ✦ Stigmas around mental health
- ✦ Inequity, discrimination, and implicit bias within local organizations
- ✦ Physical and emotional safety concerns, particularly among Black residents

*Note: Survey participants were allowed to select more than one option



(fig. 55) CVHMC Community Discussions

COMMUNITY VOICES FOR HEALTH IN MONROE COUNTY

DELIBERATIVE SESSIONS

DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEY RESULTS

111 Responses

AGE

54% 35-54 years old

RACE & ETHNICITY*

2% Asian American

7% Black / African American

0% Native American

72% White / Caucasian

1% Bi-Racial

3% Multi-Racial

15% Latinx

GENDER IDENTITY*

77% Female

23% Male

2% Transgender

2% Non-binary/ Non-conforming

From August 2021 to February 2022, the CVHMC team hosted 10 deliberative sessions during which our team brought together more than 100 diverse community members, including elected officials. During these deliberative sessions, participants shared how they related to health concerns identified in the early public engagement efforts. Participants also discussed possible solutions for health concerns, including the expansion of community resources that they believed have been useful in the past. Needs for health-related policies, programs, and services discussed during these sessions included:

HEALTH INSURANCE CONCERNS

- ★ Advocates to help residents receive needed care and insurance coverage
- ★ Health insurance for all, including immigrants
- ★ Policy to help people without insurance, particularly women without prenatal care
- ★ Health insurance sign-ups at convenient locations
- ★ Contact with state legislators to express concerns

QUALITY & AVAILABILITY OF HEALTH SERVICES

- ★ Engagement with IU Health regarding needed improvements
- ★ More choices and availability for care and providers, including walk-in health clinics and health fairs
- ★ Healthcare navigators and education on existing resources
- ★ Equitable healthcare, regardless of insurance plan
- ★ More transparency around healthcare costs
- ★ Improvements to provider care, including cultural competence and empathy training for providers
- ★ Improved support networks
- ★ Reducing the stigma associated with mental health care
- ★ Improved mental health resources, particularly for individuals experiencing homelessness, incarcerated individuals, and children born with addiction issues
- ★ Transportation linked to service providers
- ★ Expanded roles for emergency services
- ★ Use of American Rescue Plan Act funding for health services

SOCIAL & ECONOMIC CONDITIONS THAT IMPACT HEALTH

- ★ Inclusion of more community members in health discussions (e.g., people-centered planning)
- ★ Survey to prioritize proposed solutions
- ★ Research best practices in other communities
- ★ Improved education on self-care and preventative care
- ★ Improve health and social service programs by expanding weekend hours, providing map of services, improving outreach strategies, and connecting residents with neighbors willing to help
- ★ Use of navigators and centralized navigation point
- ★ Expansions of existing services offered by nonprofits and enhanced collaboration between organizations
- ★ Translation of more documents into multiple languages
- ★ Continued use of police personnel trained to work with individuals with mental health issues
- ★ More support for individuals recently incarcerated
- ★ Expand affordable housing through local Housing First policy and improvements to housing voucher programs
- ★ Improvements to transportation services
- ★ Expanded programs for food access and nutrition, including more food pantries, mobile farmers markets, and subsidies for healthy food products

*Note: Survey participants were allowed to select more than one option

(fig. 56) CVHMC Community Deliberations